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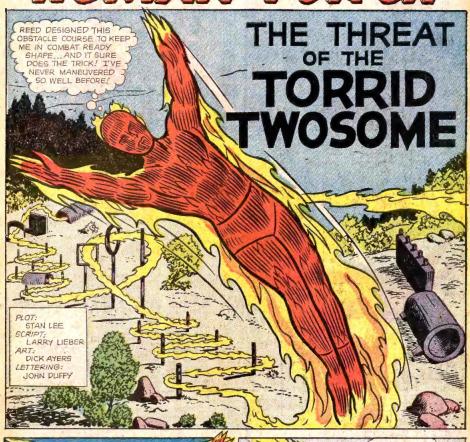
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## the TORGET







BUT, WHILE THE FANTASTIC HUMAN TORCH GOES THROUGH HIS PACES IN NEARBY GLENVILLE, A SINISTER STRANGER IS ABOUT TO ENTER HIS LIFE.







































YEAH ... THAT'S RIGHT! MAYBE



I'LL GO STRAIGHT TO THE

FANTASTIC FOUR HEADQUARTERS















CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE ..

#### RECIPE THE

JOSIE was a tomboy. From the time little girls usually cuddle dolls. Iosie cuddled a baseball. Fancy ball dresses were objects of complete disdain to her. Although Josie's mother hoped that someday her little girl would outgrow this phase, she had visions of Iosie a hundred years from now hobbling out onto the baseball diamond for her turn ar bat.

"I don't know where you get all that energy from," her mother commented one day, "I see all the other little girls reading fairy tales, preparing for their future . . ."

losie wrinkled her freckled nose.

"That bores me," she replied in a condescending voice. "I'd sooner give myself a physical workout."

To Josie's surprise, her mother promptly put a broom in her hands.

"Very well then," her mother said, taking advantage of the situation. "You can sweep the front porch for me."

When Miss White, the next door neighbor dropped by, Josie overheard her comments. To her dismay, Miss White suggested a practical plan to use on Josie.

"You must cultivate Josie's interest in feminine pursuits," said Miss White knowingly. "Perhaps you could start her on embroidery work. Eventually she'll show an interest in things like cooking, too, and you can relax and not worry about Josie any more."

She certainly hoped her

mother would "relax" in time for her to get out of the house that Saturday afternoon for the gang's baseball game! She could just see herself daintily sewing away with needle and thread instead of sliding into home in a victorious cloud of dust! Josie sighed and decided then and there to use strategy. If it would make her mother happy for Josie to show an active interest in feminine pursuits, there would be nothing wrong with it. That certainly seemed like the best idea.

The following day Iosie took part of her allowance and went to a second-hand book store she knew. Open tables of worn books were set up in the store. Iosie looked over them carefully.

"Do you have any used cook books?" she asked the proprietor.

"Haven't seen any about here lately," he replied, "unless some came in with the batch of books I bought today. I haven't gone through all of them vet. They're on the floor in the corner, though, if you want to dig into them."

Josie looked doubtfully at the pile of books he pointed out. Most of them were falling apart, and their bindings were so badly worn that Josie doubted she would ever find what she wanted there. But she decided that she couldn't afford to let the opportunity pass,

Carefully, she knelt down and looked over the list of titles. To her delight she found exactly what she wanted! It was a leather-bound book with the gilt lettering of the title partly rubbed off. The first two words she couldn't make out at all, but the last two said "cook book." The proprietor asked for ten cents for the book, and off she went whistling happilv.

When she got to her house, she slowed down from a racing pace to a dignified walk. She waved her hand and smiled sweetly to her mother.

"What have you been up to?" her mother asked suspiciously.

"I bought a cook book," said Josie, "You see, I've been thinking things over and I decided I really should take more of an interest in these things.

"Why, that's simply wonderful, Josie," her mother beamed. "Would you like to use the kitchen yourself or shall I help you."

"Oh, I can manage by myself," said Josie confidently.

Her mother hesitated. "Well, you call me if you're in doubt about anything."

A short time later, Josie's mother heard sounds of activity from the kitchen and smiled to herself. Josie was certainly changing in her enthusiasm for the domestic routine. She was tempted to look in and see what was going on, but she felt that Iosie was old enough to handle her responsibilities. Then, too, the satisfaction she would get from doing the job herself would be lessened if her mother helped her now.

A short time later, Josie joined her mother on the porch. Her freckled face had a wide grin, and her eyes were danc-CONTINUED

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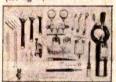
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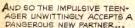
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JUST HOPE WHEN

YOU REALIZE YOUR

MISTAKE, IT WON'T

BE TOO LATE!

AND WHEN I

FLAME OFF AGAIN

THE MOLECULES

BECOME CLOTHES

CHANGE THEIR

STRUCTURE TO



AND JUST IN TIME, TOO! WE HAVE OUR FIRST CASE!

A TELLER AT THE GLENVILLE SAVINGS BANK GOT LOCKED IN THE VAULT-AND IT CAN'T BE OPENED

IF YOU DON'T BURN THROUGH THE DOOR AND FREE HIM, HE WILL.



DON'T WORRY!









































BUT, WHEN CARL ZANTE TURNS

ON THE IGNITION AND PUTS















CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE.





























BUT BEFORE THE ACROBAT CAN REACH THE MAN-HOLE, HE FINDS HIMSELF ENCIRCIED BY A NOOSE





THEN, WHEN HIS CAPTIVE IS SECURE, THE TORCH REMOVES THE FIERY WEAPON!





OKAY, OKAY! LET'S CUT THE HEARTS AND FLOWERS! EVERY-ONE'S GAWKIN' AT US! LET'S BLOW! I BROUGHTSOME ONE SIDE. THING ALONG MAC! THIS AIN'T FOR YOU, JOHNNY! NO TOURISTS! ATTRACTION. I FIGURED YOU WOULD

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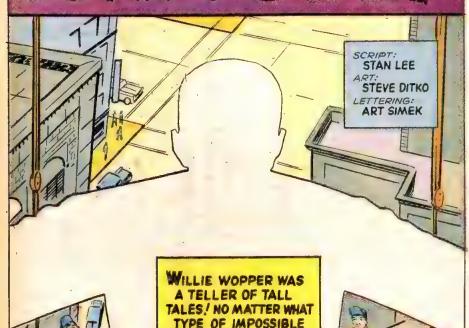


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CONTINUED

"You know something?" she said, "I never knew that cooking could be so much fun. One of those recipes I'm trying sounds simply great. The guy who wrote the book must have had quite a sense of humor though. How in the world can you stir a cat's meow into a kettle?"

"What did you say?" asked her mother curiously.

At that moment their house pet, Whiskers, the cat, jumped up on the porch and purred Hello.

"I think it's sort of crazy, but then I haven't done much cooking before," Josie admitted. "I found part of a crow's nest in my room luckily. It's the one I saved from the time we were in the country last year."

"What in the world have you been cooking?" her mother demanded. And with that she rushed into the house and toward the kitchen. Josie followed and Whiskers padded behind them.

A large kettle was on the stove simmering away. Clouds of steam poured from it, and Josie took up her cooking spoon with as much determination as she had when wielding a baseball bat. She stirred the liquid in the pot, and at that moment Whiskers let out a long "Meo-ow."

Suddenly, the broom closet door swung open. The broom actually flew through the air and sailed out the window! Suddenly, in the living room the shades on all the windows started to spin and flap. And then, of all things, from the upstairs part of the house came the sound of martial music that sounded as if the Army band were conducting a full scale parade.

"What's going on here?"
Josie's mother demanded. She
waved her hands in the air excitedly just in time to catch two
bouquets of flowers that sailed
from their vases in the living
room smack into her!

Suddenly the broomstick vaulted back into the kitchen and this time with the precision of a dive bomber, plunged downwards and skidded across the floor to where Whiskers was sitting. Whiskers was lifted up onto the broomstick and zoomed overhead. He purred contentedly and seemed to thor-



oughly enjoy this new aerial view of things!

"I don't understand this," said Josie, looking around her in amazement.

"Well, I do!" exclaimed her mother taking a good look at the cook book Josie was using. With capable hands she took two pot holders and got a firm grip on the boiling kettle. Despite Josie's squeals of protest she took the pot, marched to the back door and tossed the contents into the compost heap.

The noisy music stopped. The shades at the windows flapped into place. The last strange sound was the sudden plop of the broomstick and an indig-

nant "Meow" from Whiskers as his aerial broom crash-landed him with a skid across the waxed kitchen floor.

"If you had stopped to read the title of this book carefully this wouldn't have happened," Josie's mother scolded.

Josie peered closely, and suddenly she realized that the faint letters of the first two words read, "Witches' Magic."

"My goodness," she gasped, "the Witches' Magic Cook Book,"

"And the recipe you were brewing was probably a concoction used to haunt houses," her mother said indignantly. "I might have known your sudden interest in cooking would have ended up in mischief."

"But my motives were good," Josie protested although she blushed with shame.

Suddenly her mother smiled understandingly.

She walked over to Josie and lovingly adjusted the halo glittering above her daughter's head. She then used her wand to straighten her own.

"Someday you young people in Fairyville will understand why we older fairies had to banish the witches and their foolish tricks. They were really giving our place a bad name. Next time be more careful about the cook book you use. I should have known when you mentioned crow's nest and a cat's meow what was going on. All our recipes call for flower petals and dewdrops, not that silly stuff you mentioned! Well, go out and play with your friends now. By the time you're old enough to graduate from school and get your fairy-wand, you'll have stopped being a tomboy, I hope."

THE END

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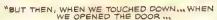






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